

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JANE
KLEIN, LENEXA, KS, CITY COUN-
CIL MEMBER

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Jane Klein, a member of the Lenexa, Kansas, city council, who died on April 5th.

As the District Attorney for Johnson County for twelve years and as U.S. Representative for the Third District of Kansas since 1999, I came to know Jane Klein well. A dedicated public servant and community volunteer, she made the city of Lenexa and Johnson County a better place to live for her friends, neighbors and family members. I am placing in the RECORD an article published in the Kansas City Star that announced her untimely death and reviewed her achievements as a public servant and concerned citizen. The Star obituary also captures her sense of enthusiasm and effervescent personality, which will be sorely missed by all who knew her. I join with the leaders of the Lenexa community in paying tribute to this energetic, active leader, and with her many friends and family in mourning her loss.

[From The Kansas City Star, Apr. 7, 2009]

LENEXA CITY COUNCILWOMAN JANE KLEIN DIES
AT 70

(By Dawn Bormann)

When the forecast called for heavy snow, Lenexa City Councilwoman Jane Klein usually had a crock of chili simmering and cinnamon rolls rising for the street crews.

On other days she baked cookies for police officers and often dropped goodies off with firefighters, her children said.

Klein—hailed as a Lenexa cheerleader by constituents, political insiders and the rank and file—died Sunday. She was 70.

Her death came days before Klein was expected to sail through Election Day unopposed. Instead, supporters, family and friends planned a Tuesday night victory party at a Lenexa watering hole.

Klein was a mother to five children, grandmother to nine and great-grandmother to two children. The Irish Catholic woman saw to it that her children knew the importance of giving back to the community.

It was easy to learn from the stalwart public servant. She was elected to the council in 2001 and 2005 by the residents of Ward 1 for consecutive four-year terms. She had previously served on the council from 1983 to 1995. Klein had lived in Lenexa for more than 40 years and devoted 20 years to public service as a councilwoman.

"We are deeply saddened by the news of Jane's passing," Mayor Mike Boehm said. "Our community has lost a dear friend and long-time leader. Jane's passion for this city and our citizens was extraordinary; she always had the community's interests at heart in all that she did. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jane's family."

Klein was diagnosed with gall bladder cancer about six weeks ago. So when the councilwoman sent word that she wouldn't make it to the city's March 17 meeting some might have assumed that she was too sick. Good friends knew better.

"The heck with the cancer—she was not going to miss St. Patrick's Day," said fellow City Councilwoman and friend Diane Linver. "She was 100 percent Irish and boy you knew it."

During Klein's tenure, the city moved forward on several projects including City Center, "rain to recreation" and road projects like the 87th Street.

Knowing public safety was of utmost importance in the suburbs, Klein was an unabashed supporter of the fire and police forces.

The councilwoman might have been a strong Irish woman, but she would not engage in divisive politics, Linver said.

"She was never a negative force. You would never hear a negative word come out of her mouth about another city council member," Linver said. "She would find a way to give her opinion but still be the kind and gentle and decent person that she was. We should all emulate that."

Linver suspects her gentle nature and genuine love of the city were among the reasons that few challengers stepped up to run against Klein.

"People respected her and they knew that she cared about her constituents and she knew so many of them," Linver said.

Klein was active in many clubs all over town. She volunteered again and again to be the VFW Post 7397 Auxiliary president. She stepped up for church committees and was a Kiwanis Club member.

Klein instilled a strong sense of public service in her children, too. As youngsters, they helped sell poppies and often accompanied her on trips to the veterans hospital in Leavenworth.

At the holidays they knew there was always room for another. Anyone without family or a place to go for the holidays was instructed to show up at the Klein household.

"We always had an orphan clause," said Klein's daughter Susan German. Her work in the community did not go unnoticed.

In 2006 Klein received the coveted "spirit of the chamber" award from the Lenexa Chamber of Commerce. It was an award she held dear.

"Mom loved Lenexa. She loved serving the people of Lenexa," her son, Doug Klein said. "She loved seeing the city grow."

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. with rosary at 8 p.m. Monday at Holy Trinity, 9150 Pflumm Road. The funeral will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Holy Trinity.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING
ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIDALGO
COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT AS THEY ACCEPT THE
2009 COLLEGE BOARD INSPIRA-
TION AWARD

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hidalgo County Independent School District for their outstanding achievements this past year. Today, the Hidalgo school district will be presented with the 2009 College Board Inspiration Award. This prestigious award is presented to only 3 secondary schools in the country which have exhibited outstanding college preparatory programs and partnerships among teachers, parents and community leaders.

Earlier this month, Hidalgo Early College High School was named one of the countries three secondary schools to receive this year's Inspiration Award. As one of the most improved secondary schools in the country, Hidalgo Early College High has shown its desire

to provide quality programs for its students. This award shows the commitment that these educators in Hidalgo County have for their community, state, and nation as they help prepare and educate tomorrow's leaders.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Hidalgo County Independent School District for their extraordinary accomplishment in having one of the selected schools to receive the 2009 College Board Inspiration Award. Hidalgo Early College High School's students, staff and administrators truly deserve our recognition today for setting such a fine example to the rest of the state and the nation as a whole.

TRIBUTE TO THIRD DISTRICT CON-
GRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY
COUNCIL

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, in the fall of 2004, I created the Congressional Youth Advisory Council to engage high school students living in the Third District. Back then, I guessed that perhaps 10 to 20 students would apply. Little did I know that this program would grow into a popular program for the area's best and brightest students from across the Third District. For good reason, many associate the Congressional Youth Advisory Council with excellence and one of the highest standards of civic pride for young people in North Texas.

This year 45 students representing 21 area high schools make up the elite group. The Council's goal is two-fold. First, the group provides me with greater student perspective and insight on issues that directly impact younger Americans. Second, Council activities educate students on government policies relevant to young people.

The students boast impressive credentials: honors society, student leadership, school athletics, community philanthropy, language clubs, and musical backgrounds. These students have things to say about the future of this great country and long to be heard. They represent their generation as servant leaders and make their community and their country a better place.

I commend the students for volunteering their time on the Congressional Youth Advisory Council and I wish each one continued success in all of their endeavors. Without a doubt, every student will continue to play an important role in our community for decades to come, and that America and North Texas, will continue to benefit from their dedication, smarts, and service.

You know, a lot of people hope to make a difference sometime in their lives. To the members of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, you just did. Thank you. I salute you; God Bless You and God Bless America.

The names of the students serving on the 2008–2009 CYAC follow:

Jonathan Alston; Logan Borgsmiller; Amy Boykin; Nicholas Brush; Jennifer Bundren; Matt Burnham; Anita Chandras; John Clark; Ally Crutcher; Christian Cummings; Trevor Ede; Josh Eldridge; Luke Franz; Jennifer Goebel; Anna Gu; Stephen Hayes; Lisa Hu;